

With Jesus  
With each other  
To the edges



# Pioneer Mission Training

Theology, Ministry & Mission



CHURCH  
MISSION  
SOCIETY

# What's Pioneer Training?

## Popular metaphor with pioneers - the gift of not fitting in.

Many pioneers feel like they don't quite fit into business as usual, often seeing things on the fringe or the possibilities outside the church gates. To which we say 'fitting in is over-rated!'



## The Pioneer Call and how do you know if you have it?

"A pioneer is someone who sees future possibilities and works to bring them to reality" - *Beth Keith*

"Pioneering feels less like something I am doing and more about who I am" - *Lucy Barber former UG Ordinand*

## Seeing all through the lens of mission

"Our primary distinctive as a course is that we view everything through a missional lens. Church Mission Society has 200+ years of cross-cultural mission experience, which is invaluable as we think about pioneering mission in all the cultures and contexts existing in Britain today. I'm constantly inspired by our wide range of students, their willingness to take risks and their sense that anything is possible." - *Cathy Ross*



# What's Pioneer Training?

## On the job training

Our course is specifically designed by pioneers for pioneers. You'll get a chance to connect with experienced pioneer practitioners who want to see you flourish and your imagination channelled into action.

Our course provides a dynamic, supportive learning community that will be there for you as you process your learning, take risks in mission and reflect on your journey.



## Creative curriculum accredited through Durham University

Our course is designed to be flexible, so you don't have to stop doing while you are learning.

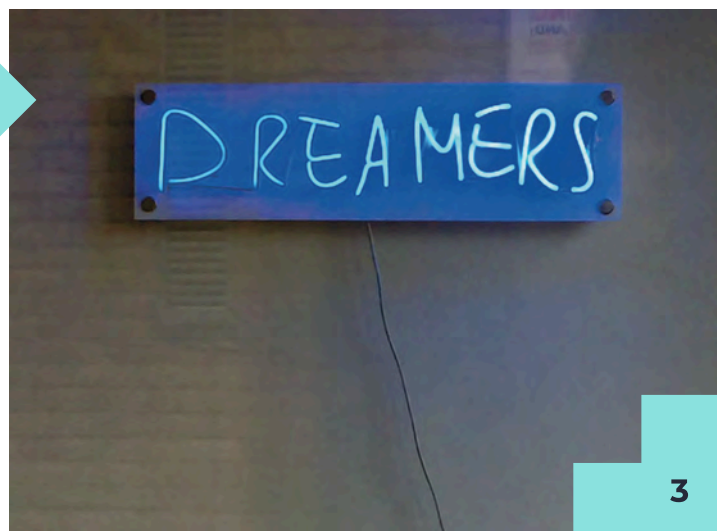
Our course will equip you for ground-breaking, transformational and sustainable mission, giving you what you need to initiate and follow through on mission projects that will help change lives.

## "Dreamers that do"

Course founder Jonny Baker often refers to pioneers as "dreamers who do."

Jonny and CMS set up the course over a decade ago in response to a need he saw to equip, support and give confidence to those working as pioneers.

The CofE 2023 Ministry Division periodic review endorsed our programmes, stating: "CMS Oxford are to be commended for their wide engagement with the Global Church and Diaspora Mission within a Post-Christian Britain..."





## Being a student at CMS

### Teaching Format

All our teaching days for Undergraduate (Monday) and Postgraduate (Tuesday) kick off with a student led creative worship session from 10:30-11am, and teaching sessions are 11am-1pm; and 2-4pm.

### Durham University

Our programmes are accredited through Durham University as part of a suite of Common Awards. The awards are taught in Theological Education Institutes (TEIs) all over the country; CMS is a TEI with Ripon College, Cuddesdon.

### Cost? Competitively low course fees 24/25

Certificate	£3100 (120 credits)
Certificate	£4650 (180 credits)
Diploma	£6200
BA	£9300
GradDip	£3100
MA	£6300
DTh	£2200 pa*

Plus Durham Uni annual student fee (which entitles you to a student card and access to nationwide student discounts). This fee is between £288-£480 pa or £86 pa if you are interested in becoming a licensed lay minister in the CoFE.

Fees are payable upfront or by monthly standing order. Bursaries are available by application.

\*NB. The DTh is the only programme that is charged per year, all others costs are for the entire award.

For more info go to: [pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org](http://pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org)

# Pathways to a new adventure

## Undergraduate

Certificate - 1 year  
Diploma - 2 years  
BA - 3 years  
Graduate Diploma - 1 or 2 years

## Postgraduate

PGCertificate - 1 year  
PGDiploma - 2 years  
MA - 2 or 3 years  
DTh - professional doctorate  
(University of Roehampton)

*Please see pages 8-11 for further details*

## Ordinands and Licensed Lay Ministers

We offer ordination training and Licenced Lay Ministry training, through the following courses:

- ◆ Diploma
- ◆ BA
- ◆ Pioneer MA
- ◆ African Christianity MA

Contact Helen Harwood ([helen.harwood@churchmissionsociety.org](mailto:helen.harwood@churchmissionsociety.org)) for more information.

## What students say they get...

Confidence. Community. A pioneer language. Tools and resources. Personal growth. An award. A mentor. A tutor. Pastoral support and more.

**“Training with CMS transformed my practice with young people”**

*– John Wheatley former MA student*

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# What students say...

*“Applying to study at CMS seemed like a very natural way to marry theological knowledge with the context I find myself in. I have met several people who had already studied there and one thing they said was that you will be joining a community of pioneers. It can be pretty lonely being a pioneer, especially when you’re surrounded by people who are resistant to change. This is one of the things that attracted me to CMS and I have to say has been a huge bonus to meet other like-minded people and hear their stories and their encouragement.”*

*Christine Cattanach (Undergraduate Certificate student)*

*“Taking the Christianity in the African Diaspora course has not been what I thought it would be, but it has been so much more. It has helped me knock down walls that I had built around my own heart, to see more clearly the fields that are before me, and helped to fill me with new courage and determination to speak boldly and courageously as I work towards reconciliation that can only be found at the feet of Jesus.”*

*Angel Rena Collins Itzstein  
(Year 2 African Christianity MA Student)*

*“I already feel valued. I feel I already have a place. I’m going to be listened to. I have found a place I feel I belong for now, when I haven’t found that for a while. That feeling of belonging is only going to grow.”*

*Mari Nasr (Year 1 BA Student)*

*“Training with CMS transformed my practice with young people. As a youth worker in a low-income community, developing a missional approach enabled me to engage with the context and culture that I was working in, meeting young people where they are at. In the church we tend towards a model that inducts young people into traditional forms of church that aren’t working. Adopting a pioneer approach enabled me to understand youth culture as a missional context, and my role became creating something new WITH young people in their own community. Studying with CMS improved my practice and my thinking.”*

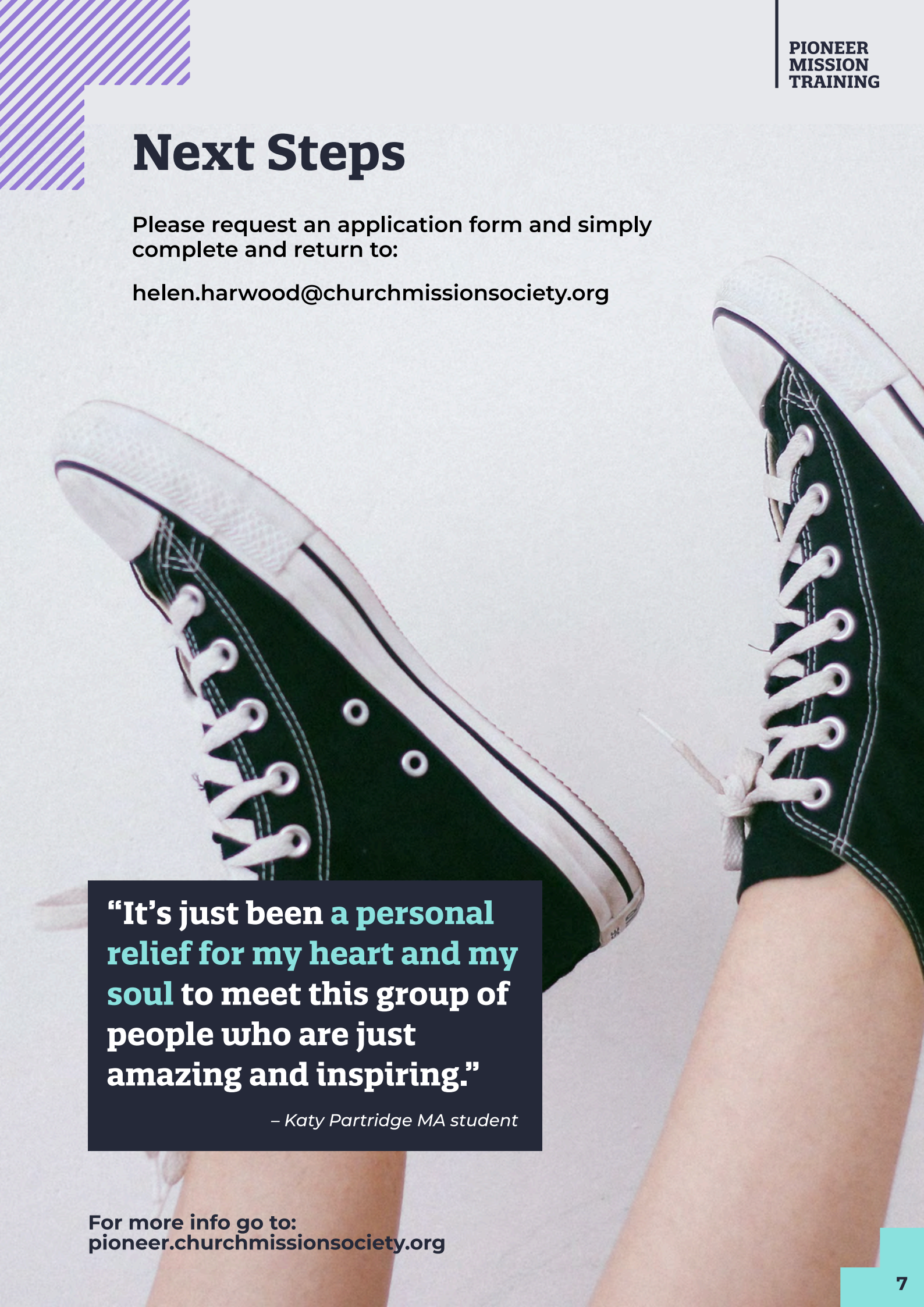
*John Wheatley (Former MA student now with Frontier Youth Trust)*

For more info go to: [pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org](http://pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org)

# Next Steps

Please request an application form and simply complete and return to:

[helen.harwood@churchmissionsociety.org](mailto:helen.harwood@churchmissionsociety.org)



**“It’s just been a personal relief for my heart and my soul to meet this group of people who are just amazing and inspiring.”**

*– Katy Partridge MA student*

For more info go to:  
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# Undergraduate Modules

## Certificate - level 4 modules

**Foundations for Theology and Reflective Practice** - an introduction to contextual theology, principles and methods of reflection, and their place in mission and practice.

**Pastoral Care, Ethics and Ministry** - an introduction to key issues in both pastoral care and ethics, giving you the tools and theological framework to approach pastoral situations, as well as the space to reflect on your own views and experiences.

**Mission and Evangelism** - puts the Bible in conversations with culture to help us gain greater understanding about our own practice of mission, looks at historical trends and current approaches to engaging and witnessing to the world around us, along with practical engagement in mission (online with weekend residential).

**Introduction to Church History** - an overview of church history and its social, cultural, and political context, helping you see how history might have shaped your practice and experience.

**Introduction to the Bible** - an overview of the purpose, context and content of the Old and New Testaments, becoming familiar with approaches to biblical study and considering how to engage biblical texts in mission and ministry.

**Spirituality and Discipleship** - explores different approaches to discipleship, considering various Christian spiritual practices and their impact on our individual spiritual lives, and how we might engage practically with them in our lives and the lives of our community (week residential).

## Pathways - focused certificate

**Pioneer Focus**  
(see all modules above)

**African Theology Focus** (fully online)  
- The same modules as above (each taught with an African theology focus), with a Black Theology module and a African Theology module replacing Pastoral care, Ethics and Ministry.

**Chaplaincy** - The same modules as above (each taught with a chaplaincy focus), with a chaplaincy module replacing Church History or Pastoral care, Ethics and Ministry.

**Children & Families** - The same modules as above (each taught with a C&F focus), with a C&F module replacing Church History or Pastoral care, Ethics and Ministry.

**New Housing** - The same modules as above (each taught with a New Housing focus), with a New Housing module replacing Church History or Pastoral care, Ethics and Ministry.

**Youth** - The same modules as above (each taught with a Youth focus), with a Youth module replacing Church History or Pastoral care, Ethics and Ministry.



# Undergraduate Modules

## Diploma - level 5 modules

**Leadership and Theology for Ministry and Mission** - explores theories and skills in leadership, considering them from a theological and mission focused perspective, integrating Biblical and pastoral approaches to leadership, and reflecting on how these can inform your practice.

**Mission Entrepreneurship (also known as Make Good)** - an introduction to social enterprise and its relevance in mission. A residential week to enable you, with the guidance of experienced practitioners, to take an idea from conception to the initial stages of a business plan (week residential).

**Missional Ecclesiology** - an introduction to historical and theological perspectives of ecclesiology and the ways in which the missional church has consistently implemented new approaches, including the opportunity to see how this works out in pioneering settings.

**Missional Theology in Global Context** - considers theology and approaches to mission from a global perspective and examines contemporary culture, seeing how important understanding context is for our own missional practice (online).

**Bible in Context** - explores different approaches to interpreting the Bible and how to read in light of both its original and subsequent contexts, looks at how Old and New Testaments can be related to each other, and applies this learning to your own engagement with the Bible (week residential).

**Developing Ministry and Worship in Context** - this module links with your own work or placement to deepen your knowledge and understanding of Christian worship, develop practical skills, and equip you in leading worship, preaching and pastoral care in your context.

**Placement** - an opportunity to do a placement in a context or church setting that is different to your own context or prior experience. It's your choice where you go and you get to spend total 35 hours on the placement - over the year, or one week, or month, this country or overseas - a chance to do something different.

# Undergraduate Modules

## BA - level 6 modules

**The Bible and Christian Faith** - explores key themes and critically examines key thinkers in the study of both Old and New Testaments and how think about it with regards to our faith.

**Chaplaincy and Contemporary Christian Mission** - explores the distinctive ministry of chaplaincy in mission, including an opportunity to experience a chaplaincy context (online).

**Theological Perspectives: Community Development** - offers space for dialogue and theological reflection on approaches to community development, as well as opportunities to study and visit specific initiatives (online + weekend residential tbc).

**Justice, Environment and Mission in a Global Context** - examines Christian engagement in issues of justice, development and the environment, addressing theology and missional practice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on the implications in your own context (week residential).

**The Creative Arts and Christian Ministry and Mission** - explores the theological and philosophical discourses of art and Christianity. Aimed at mission or ministry practitioners, it further explores the potential of engagement with the arts to express, connect and create opportunity for mission and ministry.

**Dissertation** - is a piece of work of 12,000-15,000 words enable you to follow an area of interest in depth.

# Postgraduate Modules

## MA with a Pioneer focus

(in Oxford, Hybrid or fully online)

**Anthropology and Christian Mission** - an introduction to culture, context and worldview. You will develop your own reflexive capacity in relation to your cultural background and behaviour.

**Reflective Practice: Leadership and Collaboration** - equips you to discern appropriate models of leadership and evaluate your own experience in leadership. Material is drawn from both secular and Christian contexts.

**Reflective Practice: Mission and Evangelism** - an opportunity to gain a solid grasp of missiology and to engage with current mission issues through exploration of themes and metaphors. It will also help you to reflect missiologically on your own context and experience.

**Mission and Ecclesiology in Contemporary Context** - explores the role and mission of the church both historically and in the contemporary world, bringing your experience into conversation with various perspectives.

**Research and Reflection: Resources and Methods** - and introduction to various research methods and approaches to theological reflection. There will be an opportunity to design a research project.

**Theologies in Global Perspective** - helps us to engage in theology in current global perspectives on the Bible, faith and mission.

**Political Theology for Mission** - this module gives the opportunity for in-depth engagement with a range of issues around church, mission and society.

**Dissertation** (for all MA options)- this is completed in the third year of study. It is a piece of work of 12,000-15,000 words enable you to follow an area of interest in depth.

## MA with an African Theology focus

(Fully online)

**Advanced Topic in Church History** - a course designed to help students study a particular era of church history with particular reference to Africa.

**Christianity and Indigenous Religious Traditions** - a course designed to help students undertake an in-depth study of an indigenous religious tradition from the Global South, how such a religious tradition relates to culture and shapes a people's identity, and how it finds expression in orality, rituals and artistic forms using music and dance.

**Global Pentecostalism** - A course designed to help students engage in a systematic and comprehensive study of the nature of Pentecostal and charismatic types of Christianity.

**Mission and Ecclesiology in Contemporary Context** - a course designed to help students reflect on the role and mission of the church both historically and in the contemporary world bringing their own experience into conversation with various perspectives.

**Research and Reflection: Resources and Methods** - a course designed to introduce students to various research methods and approaches to theological reflection. There will be an opportunity to design a research project.

**Reflective Practice: Leadership and Collaboration** - a course designed to enable students to discern appropriate models of leadership and evaluate their own experience in leadership. Material is drawn from both secular and Christian contexts.

**PIONEER  
MISSION  
TRAINING**

I DON'T KNOW  
WHERE I'M GOING  
- FROM HERE -  
BUT I PROMISE IT  
WON'T BE BORING



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